Linking of Mahanadi and Vaigai Rivers

*6. SHRI K. RAMA MOHAN RAO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take up linking of Mahanadi with Vaigai rivers early to tackle the problem of recurrent floods and droughts in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, by when the link-work would start; and

(c) if not, in what manner water requirements in Andhra Pradesh which are to be taken up with a national perspective, are proposed to be solved?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) and (b) Ministry of Water Resources, then known as the Ministry of Irrigation, formulated a National Perspective Plan for water resources development in 1980 which envisages inter linkages among Peninsular Rivers and Himalayan Rivers for transferring water from surplus basins to water deficit areas for optimum utilisation of water resources. Under the Peninsular component, interlinking of Mahanadi-Godavari-Krishna-Pannar-Cauvery and Vaigai is envisaged. The linking of Mahandi-Vaigai river system has nine component links out of which Feasibility Reports (FRs) of 3 links have already been completed while field surveys and investigations for preparation of FRs in respect of the remaining 6 links are scheduled for completion by 2005. Detailed Project Reports of these links are scheduled for completion by 2006. The Union Government has setup a Task Force on December 13,2002 with a view to bringing about a consensus among the States and provide guidance on norms of appraisal of individual projects and modalities for project funding, etc., for implementing the interlinking of rivers.

(c) Does not arise.

Fake currency note

*7. DR.ABRAR AHMED:

DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment about the fake Indian currency notes in circulation as on date;

(b) whether Government have reasons to believe that Pakistan Government is behind this fake Indian currency notes circulation; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) In 2003, as per information compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau, fake Indian currency amounting only to Rs.3.5 crores has been recovered/seized in the country.

(b) The possibility of involvemen of sources in Pakistan is not ruled out.

(c) Corrective measures include stepping up of vigilance by the Border Security Force/Customs authorities to prevent smuggling of fake currency; setting up a special unit in the Central Bureau of Investigation exclusively for investigation of counterfeit currency notes; incorporation of special security features in high denomination notes, dissemination of information on security features available in Indian bank notes through print and electronic media for the benefit of the public. As per recommendations of a High Level Committee, additional security features have been recommended for incorporation in the Indian Bank notes which would make counterfeiting extremely difficult.

Trade to Trade deals in BSE

*8. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether SEBI has banned Trade to Trade deals in Bombay Stock Exchange; and

(b) if so, the details of the companies which have been banned and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.